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nus—at least biographies of them—Thomas Aquinas, Meister Eckhart, Tauler, Nicholas Cusanus, Weigel, J. Böhme, Oettinger, etc. The most important of these I deem to be *Scotus Erigena*, by Joh. Huber, Christlieb and Kaulich; *Meister Eckhart*, by Bach, and *J. Böhme*, by J. Hamberger. Bach on *Eckhart* is especially instructive with respect to the connection between modern philosophy and the theosophy of Eckhart and his school, to which also Nicholas Cusanus belonged.

I presume that it will yet be discovered that Copernicus was at least acquainted with Nicholas Cusanus, if he did not even sympathize with his philosophy. The director of the observatory at Krakau, Kerlinski, is at present preparing a monograph on Copernicus, which will probably throw light on this subject. Prowe's

pamphlet on Copernicus, which I have noticed in *Glaser's* journal, refers to the investigations of Kerlinski, who has recently published a beautiful edition of the works of Copernicus. As in the early ages, first in the Pythagorean school, they approached the true doctrine of the Universe, so in the middle ages it appears in the school of Eckhart, for in a certain sense, and with some restriction, Nicholas Cusanus was the precursor of Copernicus.

I beg you, my dear sir, to communicate this letter to your honorable Society: should you see fit to publish it in a journal, you are at liberty to do so.

I remain, Sir, with great respect,

Truly, yours,

DR. FRANZ HOFFMANN,

*Prof. of Philos. at the University of Wurzburg.*

## IN THE QUARRY.

By A. C. B.

Impatient, stung with pain, and long delay,  
I chid the rough-hewn stone that round me lay;  
I said—"What shelter art thou from the heat?  
What rest art thou for tired and way-worn feet?  
What beauty hast thou for the longing eye?  
Thou nothing hast my need to satisfy!"  
And then the patient stone fit answer made—  
"Most true I am no roof with welcome shade;  
I am no house for rest, or full delight  
Of sculptured beauty for the weary sight;  
Yet am I still, material for all;  
Use me as such—I answer to thy call.  
Nay, tread me only under elimbing feet,  
So serve I thee, my destiny complete;  
Mount by me into purer, freer air,  
And find the roof that archeth everywhere;  
So what but failure seems, shall build success;  
For all, as possible, thou dost possess."

Who by the Universal squares his life,  
Sees but success in all its finite strife;  
In all that is, his truth-enlightened eyes  
Detect the May-be through its thin disguise;  
And in the Absolute's unclouded sun,  
To him the two already are the one.